

REMARKS

Applicant confirms the election made verbally by Applicant on June 15, 2005. Claims 30-38 have been cancelled, without prejudice, in favor of divisional applications.

In the Office Action dated July 22, 2005, claims 1-5 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over U.S. Patent No. 4,695,542 (Thompson); claims 1-3, 6, 7, 15, 17-20, 23, and 24 were rejected under § 102 over U.S. Patent No. 4,389,645 (Wharton); and claims 1-3, 6, 15, 17, 18, 20, and 25 were rejected under § 102 over U.S. Patent No. 6,274,816 (Kendall).

Applicant acknowledges the indication that claims 8-13 and 27-29 were objected to, but were otherwise indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Claims 8, 9, and 27 have been amended from dependent form to independent form, with the scope of each of the claims remaining *unchanged* to place the claims in condition for allowance.


It is noted that no rejections were asserted against claims 21, 22, and 26. Claim 22 has been amended from dependent form to independent, with the scope of the claim remaining *unchanged*. Allowance of claim 22 is respectfully requested since no rejection has been asserted against this claim.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (SHL.0233US).

Respectfully submitted,

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